

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("____") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("_____"), or brackets ("[]"), as is applicable:

1. (Previously presented) A composite prosthetic implant comprising:
a textile support of which at least a portion of the surface is covered by a lyophilisate of a biocompatible material, which comprises, as its main component, at least one of, and/or at least one of a derivative of, the following substances:
hyaluronic acid,
alginates,
polypeptide, and
polycaprolactone.
2. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 1, wherein the lyophilisate is a lyophilisate of hyaluronic acid with a molecular mass of between 800,000 and 2,000,000 daltons.
3. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 1 wherein said textile support comprises a top layer of bidimensional or tridimensional structure, the top layer selected from the group consisting of:
a non-woven layer,
a woven layer,
a knitted layer, and
an interlaced layer.

4. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 1, wherein said textile support is obtained from threads chosen from the group consisting of:

single-strand or multi-strand polyester threads and
single-strand or multi-strand polypropylene threads.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) A process for the manufacture of a composite prosthetic implant comprising:

an impregnation stage comprising impregnating a textile support with a solution of a first biocompatible material, the first biocompatible material comprising, as its main component, at least one of and/or at least one of a derivative of, the following substances:

hyaluronic acid,
alginates,
polypeptide, and
polycaprolactone;

wherein the process further comprises a lyophilisation stage of the said first biocompatible material, the lyophilisation stage occurring after the impregnation stage.

7. (Previously presented) The process of claim 6, further comprising:

a pouring stage, subsequent to the impregnation stage and prior to the lyophilisation stage, in which a solution of a second biocompatible material is poured onto the impregnated textile support.

8. (Previously presented) The process of claim 6, further comprising:

a coating stage, subsequent to the impregnation stage and prior to the lyophilisation stage, in which the impregnated textile support is coated with a solution of a third biocompatible material.

9. (Previously presented) The process of claim 6, further comprising:
a spreading-out stage, in which a layer of the solution of a fourth biocompatible material is spread out on a tray of the lyophilisator used in a lyophilisation stage, and the textile support impregnated with the solution of the first biocompatible material is then placed against the layer.
10. (Previously presented) The process of claim 6, further comprising:
a drying stage, following the impregnation stage, for the impregnated textile support.
11. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:
covering a prosthetic implant with a lyophilisate layer; and
sticking the lyophilisate layer to biological tissue.
12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein the method further comprises:
surgically implantating the prosthetic implant for the treatment of a hernia or eventration.
13. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 1, wherein the lyophilisate is a lyophilisate of hyaluronic acid with a molecular mass of between 1,200,000 and 1,500,000 daltons.
14. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 2, wherein the lyophilisate is a lyophilisate of hyaluronic acid with a molecular mass of between 1,200,000 and 1,500,000 daltons.
15. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 2, wherein said textile support comprises a top layer of bidimensional or tridimensional structure, the top layer selected from the group consisting of:
 - a non-woven layer,
 - a woven layer,
 - a knitted layer, and
 - an interlaced layer.

16. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 2, wherein said textile support is obtained from threads chosen from the group consisting of:

single-strand or multi-strand polyester threads and
single-strand or multi-strand polypropylene threads.

17. (Previously presented) The prosthetic implant of claim 3, wherein said textile support is obtained from threads chosen from the group consisting of:

single-strand or multi-strand polyester threads and
single-strand or multi-strand polypropylene threads.

18. (Previously presented) The process of claim 7, further comprising:

a spreading-out stage, in which a layer of the solution of a fourth biocompatible material is spread out on a tray of a lyophilisator used in the lyophilisation stage, and the textile support impregnated with the solution of the first biocompatible material is then placed against the layer.

19. (Previously presented) The process of claim 8, further comprising:

a spreading-out stage, in which a layer of the solution of a fourth biocompatible material is spread out on a tray of a lyophilisator used in the lyophilisation stage, and the textile support impregnated with the solution of the first biocompatible material is then placed against the layer.